



PEARL HARBOR NAVAL SHIPYARD PUBLIC AFFAIRS

667 Safeguard Street Suite 100

Pearl Harbor, Hawaii 96860

Phone: (808) 474-0272 Fax: (808) 474-0269

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 20, 2009

Sailors Support Campbell High School JROTC Triathlon

By Katie Vanes, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Public Affairs

Twenty-one Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Sailors encouraged physical fitness among youths from 10 Oahu high schools by helping run the Campbell High School JROTC Triathlon Oct. 3. The competitive events, held at the Richardson Pool complex at Naval Station Pearl Harbor, consisted of a 200-meter swim, 1.75-mile run and a hybrid basketball “shot put” activity.

Campbell High School’s Navy JROTC program head Linda Naki arranged the challenging triathlon with collaboration from Chief Machinist’s Mate Michael Salgy, the Shipyard’s Partnership in Excellence Program coordinator.

According to Salgy, the number of Sailors volunteering at the three-hour event increased by a third from 2008, and he says is anticipating an even better turnout next year.

“There’s no way we could do these activities without active-duty members,” said Naki, who retired from the Navy as a senior chief in 1998 and has been with the Campbell High School program ever since.

She shared that she has watched students evolve and mature after becoming involved in JROTC. The Sailors' support of active duty service members in events like the triathlon gives participating youths guidance and hope for their future career paths, Naki explained.

"It's rewarding to see students who struggled in high school succeed later with the military and come back accomplished. They are still our 'ohana,' and let us know how they are doing," she said.

Salgy said volunteering for local high school events creates a mutually beneficial relationship because it helps recruiting purposes while facilitating positive extracurricular opportunities for students. "Our involvement shows a positive Navy presence," he said.

Campbell High School NJROTC program, in addition to fostering potential service members, provides a color guard for Naval Station Pearl Harbor retirement and pinning ceremonies.

JROTC participating schools in the triathlon included host Campbell, Farrington, Kahuku, Kaiser, Kalaheo, Leilehua, Moanalua, Punahou, Radford and Roosevelt high schools. Punahou athletes were the champions of the day, with Kalaheo placing second and Campbell third.

The top athlete in the overall competition was Cadet Lorenzo Randolph from Campbell. First-place winners were, for swimming, Cadet Ricky Baes from Moanalua; for running, Cadet Matthew Dodge from Campbell; and for basketball shot put, Cadet Pauliasi Tamale from Moanalua.

Sailors also volunteered during the quarterly Activity Day at Aliamanu Middle School held Oct. 2. Students enjoyed an afternoon of athletics including football,

volleyball and basketball, as well as cognitive-stimulating and creative activities such as chess, various arts and crafts, rock band and traditional board games.

“There was something for every student to participate in,” said Salgy. “One of the students was excited because he got to teach a Sailor how to play chess!”